THE GREATNESS OF HUMILITY
A Sermon Based on Phil. 2:5-11
by Pastor Scott Hannon

You should think in the same way Christ Jesus does. In his very nature he was God. But he did not think that being equal with God was something he should hold on to. Instead, he made himself nothing. He took on the very nature of a servant. He was made in human form. He appeared as a man. He came down to the lowest level. He obeyed God completely, even though it led to his death. So God lifted him up to the highest place. He gave him the name that is above every name. When the name of Jesus is spoken, everyone's knee will bow to worship him. Every knee in heaven and on earth and under the earth will bow to worship him. Everyone's mouth will say that Jesus Christ is Lord. And God the Father will receive the glory. (New International Readers Version)

In the reading from Philippians, the humility of Jesus is highlighted: “In his very nature he was God. But he did not think that being equal with God was something he should hold on to. Instead, he made himself nothing. He took on the very nature of a servant. He was made in human form. He appeared as a man.” In other words, Jesus who is God, and therefore worthy of being served, became a human who aspires to serve others. With the foregoing in mind, a word that describes Jesus is humble. Jesus is a humble servant. Had Jesus not been humble, he would not have fulfilled God’s plan. But due to his humility, he was willing to suffer the indignities that being our savior required.

Continued on page 10.

2016 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN: GROW!

BUMC’s stewardship campaign will begin Oct. 11 and focus on more than finances. The theme “Grow!” was chosen to help BUMC members and friends focus on growing spiritually through stewardship of time, treasure and talents. When commitments are made, leaves will be added to a narthex “tree,” with different colored leaves representing different areas of growth commitment. Explanatory letters will be mailed soon. Participants making commitments during the campaign will be entered into a drawing.

Finance Committee members include Chair Karen Kaufman, Carie Collins, Becky Reeves, Pastor Scott Hannon, Luella Masters, Barb Merry, Dan Allen, Brian Masters, Nancy Brink, Dianne Barrett, Richard Croll, Brad Caldwell, Dixie Johnson, and John Evans.
This section is devoted to sharing examples of our congregation acting on our mission of “Sharing God’s Love with Coffey County and the World.” If you want to recognize someone for sharing God’s love with you or others, please email the church office at lmasters@umcburlington.org for its possible inclusion in the newsletter. The deadline for submitting newsletter information is the twentieth of each month.

Thank you to Liz Caldwell and Sanna Alfers for donating a night of good sleep to hang out with the youth at Project Revolution!

BUMC Welcomes Fall! Terry Emmons grew pumpkins and delivered them for fall decorating. Dan Allen planted yellow chrysanthemums in BUMC’s front garden, and Verla Bartholomew donated home grown Indian corn. Jane Griffith contributed funds for corn stalks, hay bales, etc. Thank you to all who helped fallify BUMC!

Jo White recently donated fabric for prayer blankets. Thank you to all who support this ministry by donating funds, fabric, or by sharing prayer concerns and designating blankets, so we can share healing prayers and Jesus’ love with those experiencing difficulties.

Thank you to all who helped provide meals for over 70 Burlington Middle School and High School staff at an evening of Parent Teacher Conferences. School staff members enjoyed walking tacos, relishes, and desserts, along with the feeling of support of BUMC. Included in the helpers and contributors were: Judy Stukey, Joyce Hopkins, Carol Hannon, Joan Murphy, Elizabeth and Linda Hudson, Dianne Barrett, Jan Wideman, Ida Belle Caldwell, Salli Stewart, Barb Showder, Amy Sides, Jane Griffith, Susan Croll, Georgette Armstrong, Mary Logan, Donna Jacupke, Theresa Pryor, Judy Romary, LaVina Dalby, Sara Steiner, Rita Beard, and Luella Masters.

The Outreach Committee has been very active organizing the conference meals, elementary school clothes closet, the elementary reading program, etc. Members of this team include: Co-Chairs Sara Steiner and Rita Beard, Jan Wideman, Lanny Ratzlaff, Charlotte Burrell, Lila Zscheile, Raymon Kaufman, Donna Jacupke, Paula Bruce, Judy Romary and Judy Stukey. Thank you for your ministry!

Dave Wilkens cleaned BUMC windows. What a difference he made in our views! Thank you, Dave, for sharing your time and talent!

Devotions from Pastor Scott are available through email. If you are currently not receiving them but you would like to, please share your email address with the church office (lmasters@umcburlington.org).

If you are receiving email devotions and would rather not, please notify the church office as well.

Please join us for sermons based on these scriptures in October.

Worship services are Sundays at 8:15 and 10:30 am.
October 4: Job 1:1, 2:1-10, 23:1-9, 23:16-17
October 11: Mark 10:17-31
October 18: Laity Sunday
October 25: Youth Sunday

All men are invited to breakfast and fellowship Friday, Oct. 9 at 6 am in Garst Hall.

The group meets the second Friday of each month and breakfast duties rotate. Bob Culbertson and crew are the chefs of October’s breakfast.

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SPECIAL SERVICES PLANNED

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY is Oct. 4. A special litany will be shared with Communion, and a variety of breads will represent different parts of the world. Special thanks goes to Georgette Armstrong and Darla Jones for helping provide breads. These will be enjoyed during hospitality time following 10:30 service.

World Communion is one of the special offering Sundays designated by the United Methodist Church. Donations support World Communion Sunday scholarships for graduate national and international students, Ethnic Scholarships for national and international undergraduates studying within the US and ethnic in-service training (non-degree students). A giving envelope will be inserted in bulletins for those who choose to give to these scholarships funds.

ALL SAINTS’ SUNDAY will be celebrated on Nov. 1 at both services.

Has a family member passed away since last November? Would you like your loved one recognized with a lit candle at the BUMC All Saints services?

Please give the name of your loved one to the church office by Wednesday, Oct. 21 so their name can be recognized at both services.

If you wish to have their picture shown on the overhead screen as their name is read and as the candle is lit, please email the picture to lmasters@umcburlington.org by Oct. 21.

You are welcome to light the candle if you are able to be present for the service.

VETERANS SUNDAY

Veterans will be celebrated at both worship services on Nov. 8.

BUMC members and friends who have served in any branch of the military are asked to contact the church office with their branch and years of service: lmasters@umcburlington.org; 364-2181.


The Witness Committee works to make these celebrations especially meaningful. If you have ideas, want to help, or want to thank a committee member, the Witness team includes Chair Dawn Freeman, Geneva Bussard, Sheree Damashek, Cindy Joy, Shelly Thorp, Susan Croll, Alan Barrett and Luella Masters.

Two New Studies Beginning in Small Groups

The Adult Sunday School Class will study The Call: The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul beginning October 11.

All adults are invited to participate weekly at 9:15 am in the BUMC library. Child care is provided. Books will be available.

The Call is described in Cokesbury: From the road to Damascus to the sun-drenched lands of modern-day Greece and Turkey to a Roman prison, go with Adam Hamilton as he follows the journeys of Paul in this six-week DVD study about Christianity’s greatest teacher and missionary. You’ll see exactly where some of the most dramatic events in the spread of Christianity took place...you’ll quite probably gain a better understanding of Paul’s missionary travels than if you had covered the many miles in person.

The Monday Lunch Hour women’s study will begin Max Lucado’s Book of James: Practical Wisdom on Oct. 5.

Women are invited to meet Mondays at the Coffey Co. Courthouse Economic Development conference room from noon to 1 pm weekly. Books are available in the church office.

The new study boldly deals with practical issues of faith not bound by culture or place, emphasizing the importance of living a genuine life of faith.

Questions? Contact the church office at 364-2181.
Greetings from your Footprints!

Here we are at the start of another fantastic year where we will be doing God's work, sharing with our neighbors and helping those we don't know!

Our first function, Project Revolution, was a gathering of youth from the 5 Rivers District in Lawrence. We had 19 from our church attend, and the total number of participants was about 120. This year's theme was *Through the Cracks*, and spoke to the idea of our brokenness. But even though we are broken, Christ can use our imperfections to reach others who may be in similar situations.

The event started with a small group of our kids helping others from the district set up and get everything ready for the rest of the kids to arrive. The evening started with dinner, followed by frozen socks and some other fun games, a nice praise concert and sermon, and concluded with some reflection time at a candle lit cross. Many tears were shed and lives changed!

Next up, besides weekly youth meetings, is the Oct. 2 potato bar (it may have happened by the time you read this), a 5:30 trip to Ransom Ranch Oct. 11 outside of LeRoy, Youth Sunday on the 25th and then Trunk or Treat on the 30th.

As you can see, there are always things going on with your Footprints. If you would like to be involved, check out Takethemameal.com and use footprints as both the ID and password. We usually have 20 or so for dinner, so if you would like to cook for us, we would love to have you! Or the other option, if you prefer not to cook, is to donate cash for pizza or something. Whatever you would like to do would be great!

Thank you again for letting us take care of your children, and God bless!

Richard and Susan
crollo@yahoo.com
620-364-9232

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The youth group meets Sundays at 5:30 pm at the church. The youth room is located on the top floor at the north end of the hallway.

Sixth graders through twelfth graders are invited to enjoy dinner, fellowship, a lesson, activities, and many special events.

The BUMC family is invited to share dinner with the youth group. Check out www.takethemameal.com (instructions are in accompanying article) to offer your help and support the youth on a meeting night of your choice.

Teela Burrell is pulled in one of the district event games organized by Richard Croll.

In early September Footprints participated in a local service project.

The annual lock-in Project Revolution included meaningful worship with the group Paper Route.

*FOOTPRINTS YOUTH NEWS*

*by Youth Director Richard Croll*
OCTOBER WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

October 4
8:15 Service
Worship Leader: Judy Stukey
Video: Amy Collins/Lanny Ratzlaff
Scripture: Jane Griffith

10:30 Service
Worship Leader: Bob Culbertson
Video: Austin Croll
Scripture: Jara Thorp
Ushers: Terry and Geneva Bussard
Acolytes: Elijah Caldwell, Kenny Glenn
Child. Church: None (Communion)
Children’s Message: Adrienne Fleming
Nursery: Isaac Caldwell
Hospitality: Theresa Pryor

October 11
8:15 Service
Worship Leader: Roger Cole
Video: Amy Collins/Lanny Ratzlaff
Scripture: Bev Yokum

10:30 Service
Worship Leader: Cindy Joy
Video: Weston Fleming
Scripture: McKenzie Dalby
Ushers: The Mike Dalby Family
Acolytes: Hannah and Hayden Sides
Child. Church: Dianne Barrett
Children’s Message: Oggie, Susan Croll
Nursery: Kaitlyn Caldwell
Hospitality: Terry and Geneva Bussard

October 18
8:15 Service
Worship Leader: Carie Collins
Video: Amy Collins/Lanny Ratzlaff
Scripture: Carie Collins

10:30 Service
Worship Leader: Tina Decker
Video: Nik Alfers
Scripture: Jake Davies
Ushers: Chuck and Sanna Alfers
Acolytes: Brenden and Aiden Alfers
Child. Church: Kathy Gales
Children’s Message: Elizabeth Hudson
Nursery: Zoe Caldwell
Hospitality: The Hudson Family

October 25
8:15 Service
Worship Leader: Diane Williams
Video: Amy Collins/Lanny Ratzlaff
Scripture: Diane Williams

10:30 Service
Worship Leader: Johnny Freeman
Video: Liz Caldwell
Scripture: Teela Burrell
Ushers: The Lisa Torrez Family
Acolytes: Josie and Sage Fejfar
Child. Church: Adrienne Fleming
Children’s Message: Carol Culbertson
Nursery: Brenden Alfers
Hospitality: Tina Decker and Family

MOPS Helpers Needed
The MOPS ministry is a growing program at BUMC. This group of young mothers meets for faith-filled support the first and third Monday of each month 9-11 am.

BUMC is provides child care while the mothers are in their meetings. If you are willing to help once in a while or commit to twice a month, we would love to include you in the program. Please consider how you might help encourage the young families in our community through this opportunity. Call the church office for more information: 364-2181.

We Need, Appreciate BUMC Volunteers
If you are unable to serve on the day scheduled, please feel free to trade with another person and let the church office know (364-2181 or lmasters@umcburlington.org). Reminders are emailed weekly.

If you see an area of ministry in which you are interested, please let us know. We appreciate your ideas and your time. Let us support you in using your gifts and talents at BUMC as we serve and worship together.
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**October 2015**

**Butterfield United Methodist Church Event Calendar**

**November 2015**

- **1st**: Community Dinner and Auction
- **5th**: Thanksgiving Feast
- **15th**: Silent Auction
- **20th**: Christmas Bazaar
- **25th**: Christmas Eve Service
- **26th**: Christmas Day Service
- **27th**: Men's Breakfast
- **30th**: Weekday Services

**December 2015**

- **1st**: Church Potluck
- **15th**: Silent Auction
- **20th**: Christmas Bazaar
- **25th**: Christmas Eve Service
- **26th**: Christmas Day Service
- **27th**: Men's Breakfast
- **30th**: Weekday Services

**January 2016**

- **1st**: Community Dinner and Auction
- **5th**: Thanksgiving Feast
- **15th**: Silent Auction
- **20th**: Christmas Bazaar
- **25th**: Christmas Eve Service
- **26th**: Christmas Day Service
- **27th**: Men's Breakfast
- **30th**: Weekday Services
The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Carie Collins. Members present Carie Collins, Pastor Scott Hannon, Roger Cole, David Douglass, Harold Stubby, John Freeman, Adrienne Fleming, Wes Fleming, Sanna Alfers, Jolene Stubby, Luella Masters, Karen Kaufman, and Terry Bussard.

Finance—Karen spoke about the church finances. She reported that the finances of the church were in good shape.

Outreach—Rita Beard was present representing the outreach committee. She spoke of the activities and successes of the committee.

Trustees—David Douglass spoke about wireless internet in the church. He stated that he was going to try to extend the wireless system in more areas of the church.

Staff Parish Relations—Terry Bussard stated that they had hired a new choir director. He asked the church council if there was any expectations in regard to the upcoming budget. Terry also stated that the committee was going to interview Tyler Burrell who is thinking of entering the ministry.

Christian Education—Sanna stated that they were going to have a meeting tomorrow night.

There will be a meeting to discuss the Lay Leadership for the coming year of 2016. This meeting will be held September 24.

Trustees—John Freeman also spoke for the Trustees. He spoke about the parking lot and repairs needed to the asphalt. An estimate has been received for $10,025. The repairs will repair potholes, resurface, seal cracks, and fix low spots in the parking lot. It is expected that Fitch Funds will be used for this repair, but there must be approval from the congregation. It was stated that this approval must come from a charge conference and notification must be given to the membership. A motion was made by John Freeman and seconded by Harold Stubby. The motion passed. The motion stated: To move forward with the repairs of the church parking lot and approach the congregation to use Fitch funds for these repairs.

Committee chairpersons should have their budgets to the Finance committee on or before September 30. It was suggested that the committees keep the goals of the church in mind as the budgets were developed.

The Annual Conference is set for November 15 at 6:00PM. Coffee and cookies will be served. The new choir director was introduced, Jolene Stubby. She stated that there were 4 new members in the choir.

There has been some discussion by the Nurture Committee about the Turkey-Ham Dinner. There currently is no one that has accepted leadership for this event. It is therefore dormant at this time. There was mention of the possibility of an alternate event.

Upcoming events are:

October 2—Potato Bar Dinner served at the church
October 14—Day of Prayer
October 30—Trunk or Treat
Sunday school starts on Sunday at 9:30 AM.

There was a motion to adjourn by Luella Masters.

Respectfully,
Roger Cole
CHRISTIAN ED.
NEWS by
Adrienne Fleming

Thank you to those who assisted and attended our annual Back-to-School Kick Off congregation wide picnic. While the weather was certainly breezy, fun and fellowship were had by all! May you have a blessed 2015-2016 school year.

If you would be interested in watching the nursery on Wednesday evenings during our brand new adult study, “Mere Christianity,” please contact me ASAP. We have many congregation members wanting to attend this class and would love to be able to accommodate the desires of our members! The class begins at 7 pm and runs until 8:15 pm. Compensation for your time can be arranged.

Finally, our annual “Trunk or Treat” event will take place on Friday October 30, 2015, from 6 pm to 7:30 pm. I would love to see our BUMC parking lot filled with all sorts of different trunks, so be sure to sign up at the sign-up sheet located on the church office window!

In His love,

Adrienne
810-406-9013
afleming31@yahoo.com

Thank you to Christian Ed.
Committee members:
Chair Sanna Alfers, Joyce Hopkins, Bev Yokum, Larry Hauth, Jolene Stubby, Liz Caldwell, Dianne Barrett, Adrienne Fleming.

BUMC READING PROGRAM
RESUMES AT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Burlington Elementary School students are seeing the familiar faces of BUMC volunteers in their classrooms, hallways, and lunchroom. The volunteer reading program resumed this week. It was coordinated by Outreach Co-Chairs Sara Steiner and Rita Beard.

BUMC volunteers who commit to weekly “assignments” include Kathy Gales, Thyra Davis, Pastor Scott Hannon, Ida Belle Caldwell, Lisa and Doug Bruce, Rita Beard, Karen Reeves, Donna Jacupke, Sara Steiner, Linda Allen, Joan Murphy, Joan Murphy, Greg Hudson, Paula Bruce and Carol Culbertson. Lunchroom volunteers include Ida Belle Caldwell, Pastor Scott Hannon, Thyra Davis, Rita Beard, and Judy Romary.

The program was developed last year as part of the Great Plains Education Partnership, aiming to establish/strengthen a “hands-on” partnership with Burlington Elementary School.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER DAY
IS WEDNESDAY, OCT. 14

“the effectual prayer of a righteous man availeth much”

The Nurture Committee will be hosting another intercessory prayer day on Wednesday, Oct 14.

Please come and offer prayers for your loved ones, church family, neighbors, community, active service men & women, veterans, local & national leaders. Guided prayer cards will be available if desired.

The sanctuary will be open from 7:30 am - 7:30 pm for you to come and go. Prayer requests may be left in the sanctuary for sharing.

This year an additional prayer time will be added in conjunction with the national “child loss” awareness month campaign. Luminaires will be available for you to honor your loved one. If you wish to have your child’s name put on a luminaire ahead of time please leave a message at the church office.

Nationally a “wave of light” will be offered in remembrance at 7:00 pm on Oct. 15th for one hour. BUMC will light the luminaires again on Thursday, Oct 15th from 7-8 p.m. to participate in the wave of light ceremony.

Greeters are needed for 30 min shifts throughout the day. Please sign up outside the church office or contact Darla Jones.

The Nurture committee is involved in many BUMC events. Members include Chair Darla Jones, Kathy Gales, Tina Decker, Judy Stukey, Nancy Brink, Karen Reeves and Heather Borden.
38th ANNUAL BISHOP’S ROUND-UP AGAINST HUNGER IS NOVEMBER 21st

Each year on the third Saturday of November, United Methodists across the conference gather at the Douglas County Fairgrounds in Lawrence bringing cash and goods to meet the needs of the hungry in the bounds of the Conference and around the world. Of the money raised, 40 percent supports ongoing missions of the Conference in Haiti, another 40 percent goes to ongoing missions of the Conference in Mexico, and 20 percent is retained for distribution to help agencies within the bounds of the annual conference, including God’s Storehouse. The deadline for bringing items to BUMC is Wednesday, November 18, by 5 pm, when donations will be boxed up for the trip to Lawrence.

The greatest need is commercially prepared food. Commodities and glass jars are not accepted. Suggestions are: fruit, corn, green beans, mixed vegetables, tuna, soup (tomato or chicken noodle), canned spaghetti sauce & spaghetti, 1 lb. bags of dried beans or rice, cereal, Ramen noodles, macaroni & cheese, peanut butter and crackers. Please purchase regular size boxes. Cases of food are encouraged. Cash donations are always welcome too.

Used clothing is not accepted again this year. However, NEW clothing such as hats, underwear, gloves, socks (H.U.G.S.) are needed for both children and adults. New, washable coats are also needed along with new toys and games, and paper supplies. Also, layettes and health and school kits are requested. Below is a list of items that should be included when making each kit.

**Health Kits** (new items only)
- 1 bath towel
- 1 wash cloth
- 1 comb or brush
- 1 bar of soap
- 1 tube of tooth paste
- 1 toothbrush (packaged)
- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Wrap inside towel, tie securely, or put in a 2 gallon self-closing plastic bag.

**Layettes** - (new items only)
- 2 receiving blankets
- 2 sleepers
- Baby wipes
- Baby soap
- Baby socks
- Blanket
- Wrap inside blanket and tie securely

**School Kits**
- 2 unsharpened pencils with erasers
- 2 wide line theme book or notebook
- 1 eraser (pink)
- Small scissors (blunt)
- 1 box of 24 crayons
- 1 box colored pencils
- 1 small tube of glue
- Washable markers (8 colors)
- Put all items in a 2 gallon self-closing plastic bag.

Geneva and Terry Bussard are veterans at organizing and delivering BUMC’s annual Bishop’s Round-Up Against Hunger donations. They have coordinated this program for many years.

We appreciate their commitment and dedication to this ministry which truly shares God’s love with Coffey County and the world!

And we appreciate all of you who faithfully contribute to this annual cause as well as to BUMC’s God’s Storehouse Sunday on the fourth Sunday of each month.
Like Jesus, we should be humble. That is the advice we get from several biblical personalities. For example, King Solomon tells us, “First pride, then the crash - the bigger the ego, the harder the fall. It's better to live humbly among the poor than to live it up among the rich and famous.” Jesus tells us, “Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.” Also he tells us, “All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.” And the Apostle James tells us, “Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.” Those verses remind me of the upside down pineapple cake that my mom used to make. To make the cake, the pineapple, which made the cake taste so good, was placed on the bottom and the rest of the cake mix was spooned on top of it. After it was baked, the cake was inverted so the pineapple would be on top. God calls us to be humble like the pineapple that begins at the bottom but winds up exalted, on the top.

As to what humility is, consider the following: “Humility is honestly assessing ourselves in light of God’s holiness and our sinfulness. That’s the twin reality that all genuine humility is rooted in: God's holiness and our sinfulness. Without an honest awareness of both these realities, all self-evaluation will be skewed and we’ll fail to either understand or practice true humility.” True humility places us on our knees before God and because God accepts us just as we are, it elicits our praise and thanksgiving.

Humble persons are real about their weaknesses that lead them to sin. So they know they need a savior, who comes to them in grace, offering forgiveness. Humble persons know they are not better than others. Understanding God loves them despite their weaknesses, they know they are worthwhile. But recognizing their weaknesses, they know there are things they need to know to make them stronger. Because they never think they know it all, they are teachable.

On the Yahoo Answers website, james o says, Humble people just “quietly do the things that need doing, and don't seek recognition. They return a purse and don't leave their name. They stop and help someone change a tire and then vanish.

“They come in to help serve meals at shelters and never ask for any recognition.
“They are actually all around, but you never hear of them, because they would rather not be known.”

Truly great persons are known for being humble. They do not brag about their accomplishments. Instead they let their accomplishments speak for themselves. In contrast, less than great persons are more proud than humble. If you have not heard about their accomplishments, they will tell you about them. That is because they have to be seen as being better than other people.

To determine if you are proud, consider the times when you do something outstanding. Do you fish for compliments? That is, do you look for others to compliment you on the outstanding thing you did? And if you don’t get a compliment right away, do you keep fishing until you do? If you do, you may suffer from prideatosis. That is a name for excessive pride that I made up. Don’t you think I am brilliant? Come on, don’t you? I don’t suffer from prideatosis, at all, do I?

Please understand that a reasonable amount of pride is not a bad thing. It is not a bad thing to want some notoriety. We do not want to be ignored. When we do something worthwhile, we want to be recognized. If a child gets good grades, she wants to be recognized. If no one notices what we have done, we are likely to feel unappreciated and even, unloved.

But after saying that, I am reminded of what Timothy Keller says in his book The Freedom of Self-Forgetfulness. “Gospel-humility is not needing to think about myself. Not needing to connect things with myself. It is an end to thoughts such as, ‘I’m in this room with these people, does that make me look good? Do I want to be here?’ True gospel-humility means I stop connecting every experience, every conversation, with myself. In fact, I stop thinking about myself. The freedom of self-forgetfulness. The blessed rest that only self-forgetfulness brings.” If we can stop thinking about ourselves, we will not have to be concerned about being ignored or not recognized. Humility will come naturally, without effort.

Some persons might act humble by rejecting compliments with dismissive remarks such as, “O, it was nothing.” But if no one compliments them, sooner or later, they get hurt. I knew a man who appeared to be
more humble than most people. One day, I forgot to recognize him for doing something for the church. He reacted by saying, “That’s okay. Just don’t ask me to do anything else for you.” He wanted to be seen as being humble, but he craved compliments. However, had I remembered to mention what he had done, I would have done so.

Jesus wants us to do our best. He wants us to take pride in what we do. He wants what we do to be noticed. “And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love; yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.” Through doing our best and being recognized for what we do, we are given opportunities to testify about our faith. So being humble does not exclude us for being recognized for the great things we do. Consider, for example, Mother Teresa. She had good reason to be proud, but she also had good reason to be humble. Making that point, she said, “I am a little pencil in the hand of a writing God who is sending a love letter to the world.” She recognized her dependence on God. She knew God gave her the strength and ability to minister to so many broken and bleeding people. But she also knew that without having her ministry publicized, fewer people would have been inspired to make contributions. It was her fame for being a saint that attracted contributions from all over the world. Thus, in Mother Teresa’s life, we find humility balanced with pride. Recognition of her dependence on God inspired her to give God credit for her accomplishments. Recognition of her need for contributions inspired her to tell others about her accomplishments. Because of her example, many people have been inspired to serve God and their neighbors.

Let us pray: O holy and awesome God, grant us the ability to excel in whatever we do so that others might notice our accomplishments. When they ask us about them, allow us to witness how we have worked hard to excel. And then give us the opportunity to speak of your love, which inspires us to do our best. Amen.

1 Proverbs 16 18, 19, The Message Bible
2 Matthew 18:4
3 Matthew 23:12
4 James 4:10
6 https://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20081129093304AAm7Hjv
8 They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love, The Faith We Sing, (Nashville, Tennessee: Abingdon Press) number 2223
9 http://www.quoteworld.org/quotes/11155
COMMUNITY EVENT
Friday, Oct. 30
6-7:30 pm
BUMC Parking Lot

Light Dinner
Trunk-or-Treating!

Come Enjoy
A FUN Evening!